

INSIDE INSIGHT

Nuclear discussion

ASU's Krauss urges sensible strategy

2

Professor of the Year

Nominations now being accepted

3

A dose of laughter

'Triple Espresso' delights audiences

5

Darwinfest nears

Events celebrate English naturalist's legacy

8



TOM STORY PHOTO

MLK Day of Service

Sussely Morales, a business major at ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business, paints the decorative ironwork on a house in the Garfield District of Phoenix Jan. 19 as part of the national Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Nearly 200 volunteers from ASU helped out by painting four houses in the area, as well as general pickup and cleanup. **See related story, page 8.**

Nature of it all

Fabia Battistuzzi, a new Biodesign Institute postdoctoral researcher in the Center for Evolutionary Functional Genomics directed by Sudhir Kumar, recently made an important contribution to our understanding of the evolution of life on Earth that has the prestigious journal *Nature* taking notice.

Her research, performed in the lab of longtime Kumar collaborator Blair Hedges of Pennsylvania State University, argues that nearly two-thirds of all bacteria species "share a common ancestor that was adapted to life on land," according to the *Nature* news spotlight article.

"It seems that all of these groups had a terrestrial common ancestor 3 billion years ago," Hedges says.

For their experimental approach, the team compared sequences of RNA, the chemical messenger molecule that carries out DNA instructions in the cell to create a molecular tree of life, called phylogenetic analysis. Those sequences that have more in common are more closely related on the tree compared to more distant species, whose sequences diverge.

The research already has generated an intense debate among the scientific research community as chronicled in the *Nature* article.

ASU announces academic reorganization

ASU has announced its second major academic reorganization in the last six months, this one involving more than a dozen colleges and schools. The changes are driven primarily by opportunities for intellectual synergy, but they also will result in \$2.7 million in cost savings for the university.

The changes will not reduce ASU's academic offerings, eliminate any tenured or tenure-track appointments, or diminish access for students. The reorganization proposal, which is pending receipt of a recommendation by the University Senate and approval by the Arizona

Board of Regents, will build on intellectual connections and enhance potential opportunities for students and faculty members.

Major aspects of the plan include:

- Establishing the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts.
- Establishing the Mary Lou Fulton Institute and Graduate School of Education to focus on research and doctoral education programs.
- Consolidating all teacher preparation programs across the university into the College of Teacher Education and Leadership.

• Establishing a School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The merger of the Herberger College of the Arts and the College of Design will strengthen the intellectual partnership being built around the concept of "digital culture." This initiative seeks to expand and enhance ASU's curriculum and scholarly work dealing with the increasingly ubiquitous nature of digital culture – our hybrid environment mediated by digital technologies.

Other intellectual activities also

could grow out of this merger, such as issues of public art and public space, examining possible collaborations between theater and film, interior design, architecture and landscape architecture, and dealing with design visualization to simulate movement and temporal occupation of space, among others.

This merger also will help enhance ASU's undergraduate curriculum through the development of important learning objectives for all students in the realm of creativity.

The merger of all teacher preparation programs under the aus-

(See **UNIVERSITY** on page 6)



TOM STORY PHOTO

Rufus Glasper, left, chancellor of the Maricopa Community College District, and ASU President Michael Crow agreed Jan. 20 to an expanded partnership that will ensure a better transfer of credits between the two institutions.

ASU, Maricopa community colleges announce expanded partnership

By Sarah Auffret

ASU and the Maricopa Community College District have announced an expanded partnership to increase the number of students who complete a community college degree and go on to graduate from ASU.

The goal of the expanded partnership is to double the number of students transferring to ASU from the community colleges, and to increase their success at the university.

The agreement emphasizes academic preparation, increased student advising and financial support, and better sharing of data and information to make the transfer process smooth. Students will benefit from priority or guaranteed admission to ASU degree programs when a prescribed course sequence is followed.

This represents an expansion of the ASU/Maricopa Alliance, an agreement that was first entered into in July 2005. **(See ASU, MARICOPA on page 7)**

ASU researchers link microbes to body weight differences

By Richard Harth

In terms of diversity and sheer numbers, the microbes occupying the human gut easily dwarf the billions of people inhabiting the Earth.

Numbering in the tens of trillions and representing many thousands of distinct genetic families, this microbiome, as it's called, helps the body perform a variety of regulatory and digestive functions, many still poorly understood.

How this microbial mélange may be linked to body weight changes associated with morbid obesity is a relevant and important clinical question that has received recent attention. Now, a new study suggests that the composition of microbes within the gut may hold a key to one cause of obesity – and the prospect of future treatment.

In the Jan. 19 early online edition of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, researchers at ASU's Biodesign Institute in collaboration with colleagues at the Mayo Clinic, Arizona, and the University of Arizona, reveal a tantalizing link between differing microbial populations in the human gut and body weight among three distinct groups: normal weight individuals, those who have undergone gastric bypass surgery, and patients suffering the condition of morbid obesity – a serious, often life-threatening condition associated with diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and psychosocial disorders. Obesity affects around 4 million Americans – and, each year, some 300,000 die from obesity-related illness.

A collaboration aimed at uncovering the links between the microbial composition of the human

(See **RESEARCH** on page 7)

Student's documentary paints new portrait of refugees

By Marshall Terrill

Carly Campo spent her holiday season a little differently this year.

The Barrett Honors College junior sacrificed many holiday activities last month and dealt with various governmental entities to prepare a documentary on a recently arrived refugee family from Bhutan that visually illustrates the resettlement process from a refugee's point of view.

"Many individuals, unfortunately, have misinformed and negative perceptions of refugees, and I want the opportu-

"The project will help (Barrett student) Carly (Campo) achieve her academic goals while documenting the journey of a refugee family."

– Jill Johnson, senior program coordinator at Barrett, the Honors College

nity to bring a humanized look into their lives as they adapt to a new culture," Campo says. "It's a subject matter many people don't know a lot about. I hope my project can be used

as an educational tool for the public and perhaps by organizations in their endeavors to help refugees."

The 22-year-old journalism major will spend the next few

months chronicling the life of a Bhutanese family as they face several cultural adjustments for her untitled documentary. They include a language barrier, housing, employment, transportation, education, health, diet, money management, rights and responsibilities, and travel.

Jill Johnson, senior program coordinator at Barrett, the Honors College, says the idea for a documentary came about when she noticed Campo's unique skill sets.

"Carly was looking for a topic idea for her Barrett honors thesis and creative project, and I

(See **STUDENT'S** on page 7)

New model enhances research administration system at ASU

The volume of ASU's research has increased so significantly in recent years that the model that has been the hallmark of research administration at the university had to be re-invented.

Beth Israel, associate vice president for research administration and an administrator with more than 35 years' experience in this area, was hired to lead the effort.

"We charged Beth with looking for innovative ways to significantly enhance research administration at ASU," says Rick Shangraw, vice president for research and economic affairs. "She and her team are working closely with faculty and others to ensure greater efficiency and effectiveness in everything from grant management to compliance, and their efforts are paying off."

Israel and her team focused their initial attention on re-inventing the Office for Research and Sponsored Projects Administration (ORSPA), an organization that had weathered providing support in a climate where ASU research expenditures increased 117 percent in the last year.

"In the past, when a faculty member wanted to put a proposal together, he or she went to

ORSPA and asked for a sponsored project officer. That officer was responsible for creating a budget, working on a narrative, and was basically tied to the proposal from beginning to end," she says.

Now, with an average of 10 proposals being developed each day, the system has grown into a distributed model. Following a peer review last year, Tamara Deuser, director of information management in the Office of Research and Economic Affairs, was charged with revamping the system.

ASU's larger research-active units have built their own research advancement teams and infrastructure to support their investigators. Following the identification of opportunities, they develop proposals and obtain required approvals. In this concentrated effort, they are able to provide significant support to their units.

"They begin looking for funding opportunities as they get familiar with their portfolios," Deuser says. "They provide much more customized assistance to them and really are embedded as part of the team on the unit side."

For units and departments with smaller research portfolios, Research Advancement Services (RAS) has been created as a kind of roving team that can go when and where the proposals are being generated. In this way, the burden of grant administration no longer is on faculty – and, with that kind of support, they can concentrate on growing their research.

"What we are trying to do is create an environment for the investigators so that, when they are looking at bigger, better projects and multi-disciplinary projects and collaborations, they're not having to figure out multiple administrative support systems to help them along or get in their way," says Gary Delago, assistant director, research advancement.

Since February 2008, Research Administration has reorganized ORSPA, began the implementation of a new toolset (InfoEd software), developed a continuous improvement program and mapped out career paths for personnel who have moved into research advancement positions. They've created a repository where processes and procedures reside, called Single Point of Truth

(spot@asu.edu), and seasoned team members can document challenging situations with different sponsors so that newer team members don't have to "re-invent the wheel," so to speak.

The overall concept is to create efficiencies – and the results have been encouraging. A seemingly endless backlog for setting up accounts has been 100 percent caught up since November. Account activations that used to take 11 days now take seven, and awards are distributed electronically, which saves reams of paper.

"The overall objective is to enhance the research infrastructure at ASU to grow \$350 million in research expenditures by 2012, a goal that President (Michael) Crow set out for the university," Israel says. "And it's not just about expenditures. Those expenditures inspire discovery. We need to make it easier for our faculty to conduct their research and not be bogged down in 'administrivia.'"

Shangraw says the university's research administration system will continue to evolve to meet the needs of a more sophisticated research environment.

Krauss encourages sensible nuclear strategy

By Carol Hughes

Lawrence Krauss, a theoretical physicist and cosmologist at ASU, will co-chair the Board of Sponsors of the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* with Nobel laureate Leon Lederman.

Together they plan to re-energize a national discussion on the reduction of nuclear weapons stockpiles, and a commitment to fight proliferation and encourage disarmament efforts.

"With a new administration in Washington, it will be an unprecedented opportunity to re-examine our policy on missile defense, nuclear weapons, nuclear proliferation and nuclear energy," says Krauss, who is director of a new origins initiative at ASU. "There are a number of different areas where U.S. policy has been stagnant or gone backwards, and there is a tremendous need for a sensible strategy.



Lawrence Krauss

We will use the talent and reputation of the Board of Sponsors to be leading voices; to reinvigorate and raise the profile on these nuclear-related issues, so vital to our long-term peace and safety."

The role of the Chicago-based Board of Sponsors, founded in 1948 by Albert Einstein and first led by J. Robert Oppenheimer, is to support the efforts of the *Bulletin* to amplify voices of reason and encourage rational policymaking on nuclear weapons, nuclear energy, climate change and biotechnology. The board has 44 members and includes 17 Nobel laureates.

Krauss is a professor in ASU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, where he is a faculty member in the Physics Department and the School of Earth and Space Exploration. He was named to the Board of Sponsors in 2006, along with Stephen Hawking, Lisa Randall and Brian Greene.

Scientific American has described Krauss as a public intellectual, and he is the author of more than 250

scientific papers. In addition to writing the best-seller "The Physics of Star Trek," Krauss has written six other books, including "Fear of Physics" and the science epic "Atom: An Odyssey from the Big Bang to Life on Earth ... and Beyond." He also frequently writes commentary for *New Scientist* magazine.

"Lawrence is a distinguished scientist who is well-recognized as someone who can translate complex scientific concepts into terms that the general public can understand," Lederman says. "He has an exceptional way with words, which is a good fit with the *Bulletin's* goal to communicate clearly with the public and policymakers about the dangers and opportunities that accompany technological advancement."

Lederman, the 1988 Nobel Laureate in physics and former director of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, has been chair of the Board of Sponsors since 2001.

The *Bulletin* was founded more than 60 years ago by Manhattan Project scientists who "could not remain aloof to the consequences of their work." Its "Doomsday Clock" counts minutes to midnight in a symbolic expression of humankind's proximity to total destruction.

The clock currently is at five minutes to midnight, the result of moving the hands two minutes closer on Jan. 17, 2007. Over the years, the hands of the clock have been moved 19 times – an action determined by the *Bulletin's* board of directors in consultation with the Board of Sponsors.

Initially set at seven minutes to midnight in 1947, the hands of the Doomsday Clock were placed at two minutes to midnight in 1953 after the United States decided to pursue the hydrogen bomb. In 1991, with the Cold War officially over, the hands were set at 17 minutes to midnight.

Hughes, with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, can be reached at (480) 965-6375 or carol.hughes@asu.edu.

Economic upheavals spur more applicants for business degree

By Debbie Freeman

Many people who are out of work because of the rough economy are deciding to use this time to invest in their education, acquiring new skills and knowledge to get a better job when the economy improves. As a result, application numbers for master's degrees in business administration, commonly known as MBAs, are way up at ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business.

"These are difficult times economically, and though you can't change the times, you can make the decision to invest in yourself," says Gerry Keim, associate dean of the W. P. Carey MBA program. "You can learn to compete at an even higher level by investing in an MBA, improving your skill set, mindset and networking opportunities."

The W. P. Carey MBA program is ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as No. 22 in the nation and No. 8 among public universities. The high rankings, combined with the rough economy, are boosting applications to an unprecedented level.

Full-time MBA applications are up 37 percent from last year for the fall session. Total fall applications for all four W. P. Carey MBA programs – executive, evening, online and full-time – are up about 25 percent. Applicants also have better credentials than ever before, with many returning to school after spending more time in the workplace.

"We're attracting even more high-quality applicants than we have in the past," says Nick DeBiaso, manager of communications and retention for the W. P. Carey MBA. "The average GMAT scores have gone up more than 20 points from last year. While the candidates' amount of work experience was relatively consistent over the last several years, we also saw a big jump in that area this year."

"Getting an MBA right now makes a lot of sense, especially if you're in an industry hurt by the economic downturn," says W. P. Carey MBA student Derick Kurdy. "The opportunity cost is incredibly low, and based on economic predictions, the recruitment efforts should be increasing for the class of 2011."

Freeman, with the W. P. Carey School of Business, can be reached at (480) 965-9271 or debbie.freeman@asu.edu.

Santos de Barona tapped for deanship at Purdue

By Joan M. Sherwood

Maryann Santos de Barona, senior associate dean for academic programs and personnel at ASU, has been named dean of the College of Education at Purdue University effective July 1.

"(Santos de Barona) brings a wealth of experience in educational leadership and education reform to the position of dean," says Randy Woodson, Purdue's provost. "She is considered a leader and an innovator. ASU is considered one of the top education schools in the country. She will make a substantial impact at Purdue."

As dean, Santos de Barona will lead Purdue's education college, which prepares teachers and education professionals in a variety of degree programs. It annually enrolls about 1,000 undergraduate and 500 graduate students from a wide range of backgrounds. She will fill the position previously held by George Hynd, who left Purdue in December 2007 to join ASU as senior vice provost for education and innovation and dean of the Fulton College.

"The position of dean of the College of Education at Purdue is an exciting opportunity, and only after a great deal of reflection and conversation with my family have I decided to accept this offer," Santos de Barona says. "I have been fortunate to have served in numerous roles in the college and the university over the years; each one has given me the opportunity to better understand the complexity of a university, and even more the role of education on our society. I credit many of the faculty, staff, and administrators in helping me gain that understanding and have thoroughly

enjoyed the many good people that I have come to know. I will miss them greatly."

Santos de Barona became senior associate dean for academic programs and personnel with the Fulton College in July. She joined ASU in 1986 as an associate director of the University Testing Services.

In 1988, she became a faculty member within the Division of Psychology in Education, where she reached the rank of full professor in 1999. Her research interests include the assessment of ethnic minority children and adolescents, social skills development and training, high school completion and college attendance and women's issues.

In August 2005, she transitioned to the Division of Curriculum and Instruction as a professor of early childhood education, and she led the division as its interim director during the 2007-2008 academic year.

"Maryann Santos de Barona is a stellar faculty member and administrator with an exemplary record of scholarship, leadership and practice in the field of educational psychology and evaluation that spans three decades," Hynd says. "Her leadership and contributions to ASU have benefited countless students and left an indelible mark on the Fulton College. We are extremely grateful for her service. She will be missed."

Sherwood, with the Mary Lou Fulton College of Education, can be reached at (480) 965-2114 or joan.sherwood@asu.edu.

ASU Insight

ASU Insight is published by Media Relations, a department within the Office of Public Affairs. ASU Insight is published on Fridays, except during university holidays and other times as deemed necessary by the Insight editorial board. Submit items typed, double-spaced. The editor reserves the right to edit for style and space. Send an e-mail to asu.insight@asu.edu, fax (480) 965-2159 or send campus mail to 5011 – ASU Insight. To reach ASU Insight by telephone, call (480) 965-9689.

Deadlines: Submit all articles, notices and calendar items as early as possible. **Deadline is Friday before noon for the following Friday's paper.**

Assistant Vice President: **Terri Shafer**
Communications Manager:

Gary Campbell
Editor/Publisher: **John Jarvis**
Associate Editors: **Lisa Campbell,**
Britt Engle
Photographer: **Tom Story**

Printed on paper from Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certified mills and forests.

Training program for family caregivers to expand

By Matt Crum

There are few responsibilities that cause more stress than caring for a loved one with dementia. More and more people are taking on this responsibility, and an ASU training and support program for these individuals has gained additional funding that will enable it to expand to southern Arizona while it continues to be offered in metropolitan Phoenix.

Family caregivers of people with dementia in the greater Phoenix and Tucson areas are being recruited to participate in the Assisting Family Caregivers (AFC) program, which has been supported since its inception by the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium.

The help AFC provides includes:

- Improving caregivers' abilities to manage behavioral problems their loved ones with dementia may be exhibiting.
- Managing their own stress and mood changes.
- Communicating with physical and mental health care professionals, the affected loved one, and other family members.

"Finding better ways to support family caregivers is a major public health challenge facing this country," says David Coon, director of AFC, and an ASU professor who holds academic positions in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences and the College of Nursing & Healthcare Innovation. "Family caregivers are exposed to emotional and physical stress, as well as impacts on their finances and their ability to maintain social ties."

Coon's program works with the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium and other community partners. It includes face-to-face group training and individual telephone support. Participants are asked to take part in an in-home interview before and after the training process, and they receive \$50 in compensation for each interview.

The program emphasizes outreach to underserved populations, and training is offered in English and Spanish.

One of Coon's goals is to streamline the training process to make it more cost-effective for participating agencies and organizations.

The southward expansion comes from a new \$250,000 grant awarded to Arizona by the Alzheimer's Grants to States Evidence-Based Program, funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging. Partners for this pilot program include the Arizona Department of Economic Security's Division of Aging and Adult Services, the Desert Southwest Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and the Pima Council on Aging.

People caring for loved ones with dementia, and professionals who can refer such individuals, are encouraged to contact Coon's office on ASU's West campus to make arrangements to participate in upcoming program opportunities. The contact numbers are (602) 543-6364 (English) and (602) 327-6010 (Spanish).

Crum, with Public Affairs at the West campus, can be reached at (602) 543-5209 or matthew.crum@asu.edu.

In THE NEWS

ASU experts frequently are called upon by the local and national news media to provide insight and opinion on current events and issues of public interest. Following are excerpts of recent news articles featuring ASU representatives.

ASU linguistics professor **Jim Gee** says all aspects of popular culture are reshaping language so that new words are cropping up and being used in a manner as sophisticated as that of academia. "There's a kind of new respect that we've never seen in history for the language and the ways of thinking that are embedded in these popular culture practices," Gee says. *National Post*, Dec. 30.

Before the economic downturn started mainstreaming the re-use trend, the re-use market tended to attract people who saw it as conserving their money and the planet's resources, says ASU marketing professor **John Lastovicka**. "Unfortunately, part of this is probably a lost art," he says. "The 'Greatest Generation' that lived through the Depression, this was part of their day-to-day behavior. It can be a tough sell, unless you have to do it – which is what's happened." *Christian Science Monitor*, Jan. 12.

All across the country, states are grappling with the issue of the recession affecting health care. **Eugene Schneller**, a health management and policy professor at ASU, says he expects the financial troubles of hospitals and other health care providers will force the administration of President Barack Obama to quickly address the problem. "As the new administration comes in, it may readjust some of its health care priorities around some of those issues," Schneller says. *Arizona Republic*, Jan. 14.

ASU journalism professor **Steve Doig** says that estimating the size of crowds at mass public events is more about public relations than a true estimation. "Whether the crowd is gathering for an anti-war protest, a sports team's victory parade, a golf tournament, a pope's outdoor Mass or the swearing-in of the most powerful man on Earth, organizational reputations and personal egos are ballooned or deflated by public perceptions of whether the crowd is surprisingly large or disappointingly small," Doig says. *MSNBC*, Jan. 15.

Scientists, adding to the possibility that there could be active organisms on Mars, have reported plumes of methane on the planet. "Something's going on – it's not cold and dead and extinct," says ASU planetary geologist **Phil Christensen**. "There's the biological possibility – but even if it's not biology, the geological possibilities are pretty exciting as well. ... Either way, we're discovering Mars is more and more dynamic than we thought." *Boston Globe*, Jan. 16.

With a new presidential administration in office, the politics of science is a continued topic of debate. "I don't think George Bush changed the fundamental relationship between the scientific and political establishments," says **Daniel Sarewitz**, a science and society professor at ASU. "Federal support for science is usually a function of the size of the federal discretionary budget – no more, no less," Sarewitz says. "Virtuous noises about protecting the purity of science arise from politics, just like everything else." *USA Today*, Jan. 18.

Cronkite School surges into lead in competition

A first-place finish and two other top-five performances have propelled the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication into first place in the first round of the Hearst Journalism Awards Program's national broadcast competition.

ASU senior Liz McKernan of Phoenix won top honors in the television contest with stories about a former ASU student who has started an organization to donate blankets to families with babies and a story about a veteran jazz musician who is teaching more than music lessons to a new generation of artists. McKernan won the \$2,000 top prize.

ASU senior Joe "J.W." Cox of Hemet, Calif., finished second in the radio feature reporting contest. His stories took listeners back in time to when the Westward Ho Hotel in downtown Phoenix, now a low-income home for senior citizens, was the hotel of choice for Hollywood elite. Cox also produced a story on fishing in urban lakes in Phoenix.

Sophomore Colton Shone of Phoenix took fourth place in the radio feature reporting category with stories about a tattoo artist in Glendale, and a new high-tech piece of equipment to rid grocery carts of germs and bacteria.

The Cronkite School was the only school with three students to place in the top five of the first round of the broadcast competition. The school's three winners will compete in the semifinal round of the national Hearst competition this spring.

The Hearst Journalism Awards Program consists of a series of annual competitions in broadcast news, writing, photojournalism and multimedia. The program's awards are administered by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.

The Cronkite School has finished in the top 10 nationally in the Hearst competition for the past seven years.

Lecture features Lebanese architect

World-renowned architect Bernard Khoury, noted for building a nightclub on the site of a former refugee camp in Beirut, will give a free lecture at 7 p.m., Feb. 9, at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, room 128, at ASU's Downtown Phoenix campus.

Khoury is known as a "bad boy" of architecture, most notably for building the nightclub on the refugee campsite. He will speak about healing through the creation of an architecture that emerges in response to difficult conditions, such as damage from war or the social issues arising from the work of irresponsible developers.

Khoury thrives on resuscitating concrete carcasses abandoned by others to save them from demolition by putting them to other uses.

Khoury's roots stretch deeply into modernism by way of his father, whom Khoury calls "a hard-core modernist."

Khoury was trained in the United States, studying architecture at the Rhode Island

School of Design, and he later received a master's degree in architectural studies from Harvard University.

Khoury returned to Lebanon after the civil war ended in that country in the early 1990s, and he started an independent architectural practice in 1993. Over the past 15 years, his office has developed a specialized international reputation and an incredibly diverse portfolio. His work has been extensively published by the international press.

In 2001, he was awarded by the municipality of Rome with an honorable mention for the Borromini prize, which is given to architects under 40. In 2004, he was awarded the Architecture + Award. He has lectured and exhibited his work in prestigious academic institutions in Europe and the United States, including a 2003 solo show of his work given by the International Forum for Contemporary Architecture at the Aedes gallery in Berlin.

The lecture is sponsored by F.A.R.@ASU. For more information, contact Sarah Munter at (602) 258-1852 or sarah.munter@asu.edu.

Lecture series highlights humanities

By Marshall Terrill

Advancements in stem cell research and cloning and how religions will view genetic research will kick off a popular lecture series at the Downtown Phoenix campus.

Joel Gereboff's "Religion and Bioethics" will commence the spring humanities lecture series, which starts at noon, Jan. 29, at the University Center, 411 N. Central Ave., room 234.

The lecture series is free and open to the public.

"The humanities lecture series provides us with opportunities to analyze, discuss and interpret current events," says Frederick Corey, director of ASU's School of Letters & Sciences and dean of University College. "We look forward to public discussions that help us understand and appreciate various points of view on political, social and cultural issues."

The School of Letters & Sciences in University College is designed to respond to the needs of ASU students, downtown faculty members, the challenges of higher education and constituent communities.

Professor Joel Gereboff is chair of religious studies in ASU's School of Historical, Philo-

sophical and Religious Studies. Gereboff discusses how religious intervention will play a role in biological and genetic research, and this topic will be the focal point of his lecture.

"Secular philosophical and religious thinkers have been grappling with these issues for the past number of years, but finding ways to cultivate serious societal engagement with these matters is often difficult," Gereboff says. "Often issues immediately become sensationalized and politicized – and this, in turn, diverts us from critically thinking in these matters."

Corey says he is honored to have Gereboff as the first speaker in the series, which runs through March.

"Joel is a respected scholar and teacher in the areas of Rabbinic Judaism, ethics and religion, and bioethics," Corey says. "He engages community and ideas in reflective and thoughtful ways."

For more information, call (602) 496-0638 or visit the Web site <http://sls.asu.edu/hss/news.html>.

Terrill, with the Downtown Phoenix campus, can be reached at (602) 496-1005 or marshall.terrill@asu.edu.

Nominations open for 2009 Professor of Year

By Courtney Griggs

Nominations for the 2009 Professor of the Year opened Jan. 20 at the Web site asu.edu/PTY and will run through Feb. 23.

The ASU Parents Association's Professor of the Year program has honored 12 ASU professors since its founding in 1994, recognizing those professors who carve bold new paths of discovery and bring their students along for the journey.

"Every year, the number of qualified nominees increases and we want to honor as many of them as we can," says Robin Okun Hengl, director of parent programs at the ASU Parents Association. "The nomination process itself provides an opportunity to let our academic leaders know that the community values their contributions. And the award honors a deserving professor who makes a significant impact as an element of change."

Beyond the public tribute, the award recipient accepts lifetime recognition as a Parents Association Professor of the Year, designation as a fellow

in the ASU Distinguished Teaching Academy, a \$10,000 cash award and a \$10,000 stipend to fund a student assistant (\$5,000 a year for two years). The selection committee may also choose to fund \$1,000 special-recognition awards for other deserving faculty nominees. In 2008, there were six recipients of this award.

Last April, James Blasingame Jr., an English education professor in ASU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, was named the 2008 Professor of the Year. Since much of his teaching revolves around adolescent literature, he and his students partner with local school districts to improve literacy and writing skills among middle and high school students.

The 2009 ASU Parents Association Professor of the Year will be announced at the Celebration of Teaching and Learning Excellence event April 16. All nominators and Professor of the Year nominees will be invited to attend.

Griggs, with the ASU Foundation, can be reached at (480) 727-7582 or courtney.griggs@asu.edu.



Events are free, unless otherwise noted. Items in the "Exhibitions" section run at exhibit opening and on the first of each month only. Building abbreviations are listed according to the official ASU phone directory. Send information to Judith Smith at jps@asu.edu or fax (480) 965-2159. For information about ASU events, visit the Web at <http://events.asu.edu>.

Meetings

Monday, Jan. 26

University Senate, 3-5 p.m., Education Lecture Hall (EDC) room 117. Information: (480) 965-2222.

Tuesday, Jan. 27

Welcome-back Breakfast, 7:30-9 a.m., Memorial Union (MU) Arizona Room (221). Sponsored by University Senate. R.S.V.P.: academicsenate@asu.edu.

Lectures

Friday, Jan. 23

"Ecological Restoration and Restoration Ecology: Using Streams as a Case Study," 2-3 p.m., Life Sciences Center (LS) E-104. Speaker: Margaret Palmer, professor and director, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences. A School of Life Sciences and Wrigley Series seminar. Information: (480) 965-2705.

"Biomaterials at the Beach: Characterization and Synthetic Polymer Mimics of Mussel and Barnacle Adhesives," 3:30 p.m., Bateman Physical Sciences Center (PS) H-150. Speaker: Jonathan Wilker, Department of Chemistry, Purdue University. Sponsored by Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Information: (480) 965-2093.

Tuesday, Jan. 27

"Nanotechnology," 12:10-1 p.m., Armstrong Hall (LAW) room 114. Speakers: Matt Kim, founder and president of QuantTera, a research and development company whose mission is to develop functional, cost-effective nano-engineered photonic devices for telecommunications and power-efficient and energy generation applications, and Cynthia Pillote of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P., whose practice focuses on intellectual property counseling; patent, trademark and copyright prosecution; related technology transfer; and licensing. Sponsored by Law and Science Student Association. Information: (480) 965-2465 or Andrew.Askland@asu.edu.

"Who are we? What are we doing? Why should you care?" 6-8:30 p.m., Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe. ASU President Michael Crow speaks on how the university is advancing innovative knowledge production and leading-edge initiatives to address the social and economic challenges facing Arizona. Sponsored by ASU Foundation. Free, but reservations required: (480) 727-7070.

Wednesday, Jan. 28

"Can Quantum Mechanics Be Used to Read Genomes?" 3:40-4:40 p.m., Goldwater Center (GC) room 487. Speaker: Stuart Lindsay, Edward and Nadine Carson Professor of Physics and Chemistry, ASU Regent's Professor and director, Biodesign Institute, Center for Single Molecule Biophysics. A Biological Physics seminar. Information: (480) 727-0370.

Thursday, Jan. 29

"Ecology and Conservation of the Tiger Rattlesnake in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona," 4-5 p.m., Classroom Laboratory/Computer Classroom Building (CLCC) room 246, West campus. Speaker: Matt Goode, University of Arizona, School of Natural Resources. Sponsored by Department of Integrated Natural Sciences. Refreshments at 3:30 p.m. in third-floor breezeway. Information: Sally.Rastad@asu.edu.

"The Navajo People, Culture and Language," 4:30-6 p.m., University Club. Speaker: Peterson Zah, past president, Navajo Nation, and special adviser to ASU President Michael Crow. Sponsored by the Arizona Chapter of the Fulbright Association and the ASU Center for Learning and Teaching Excellence, with support from an Enrichment Grant from the U.S. State Department. Refreshments served at 4 p.m. Information: (480) 965-9401.

"Living With the Humanities," 5:30 p.m., Old Main Carson Ballroom. Speaker: Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Columbia University. Book-signing follows lecture; pre-lecture reception begins at 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by Institute for Humanities Research. R.S.V.P.: (480) 965-3000 or ihr@asu.edu.

Friday, Jan. 30

Conversations @11 Lecture Series, 11 a.m., ASU Art Museum. Heather Lineberry, senior curator and interim director of the Art Museums, lectures on "Breathing is Free: 12,756.3; New Work by Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba." Information: (480) 965-2787.

"A New Mathematical Model for Geometric Tolerances in Design and Manufacturing," 2:30-3:30 p.m., Schwada Classroom Office Building (SCOB) room 252. Speaker: Joseph Davidson, ASU. Sponsored by Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department. Information: (480) 727-0476.

"The Case for an Apollo-project Approach to Biomedical Problems: Why I Think Research in Biodesign Might Eradicate Cancer or Transform Diagnostics," 2 p.m., LS E-104. Speaker: Stephen Johnston, director of the Center for Innovations in Medicine, Biodesign Institute, and professor in the School of Life Sciences, ASU. Information: (480) 965-2705.

"Bootstrapping and Defeasible Reasoning," 3 p.m., Coor Hall room 174. Speaker: Stewart Cohen, ASU. Sponsored by Department of Philosophy. Information: (480) 965-9860.

Monday, Feb. 2

"The Role of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in Licensing Nuclear Power," 12:10 p.m., LAW room 114. Speaker: Ken Mossman, professor, School of Life Sciences, ASU. Co-sponsored by the Law and Science Student Association and the Center for the Study of Law, Science and Technology. Information: (480) 965-2465 or Andrew.Askland@asu.edu.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

"Programming Our Broadway Season: The Current Economic Crisis and the Impact on the Arts," noon-1:30 p.m., University Club. Speaker: Colleen Jennings-Roggensack, executive director, ASU Gammage and assistant vice president for cultural affairs. Chef's choice buffet: \$15 per person. Reservations required: 480-965-0701. Members and non-members welcome.

Friday, Feb. 6

"Is Darwinism Past Its 'Sell By' Date?" 2 p.m., LS E-104. Speaker: Michael Ruse, Lucyle T. Werkmeister Professor of Philosophy, director of the Program in History and Philosophy of Science, Florida State University. Sponsored by School of Life Sciences. Ruse will sign copies of his book, "Evolution: The Next 4 Billion Years," following the lecture. Information: <http://darwin.asu.edu/distinguished.php>.

Conferences

Thursday, Feb. 5

Fourth Annual Building Healthy Lifestyles Conference—"Understanding and Modifying Stress: A Wellness Approach," 1-9 p.m., Cooley Ballroom, Polytechnic campus. Keynote speakers and their topics include: Edward Hubbard, former Vietnam prisoner of war, "Human Potential: A State of Mind"; Brian Luke Seaward, Paramount Wellness Institute, "Stand Like Mountain, Flow Like Water: Reflections on Stress and Human Spirituality"; Alex Zautra, ASU, "Assessing the Ebb and Flow of Everyday Life with an Accent on the Positive." Sponsored by Department of Exercise & Wellness & Department of Nutrition. Continues Feb. 6, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Information: (480) 727-1924 or barbara.ainsworth@asu.edu.

Miscellaneous

Sunday, Jan. 25

"Magnificent Mind at Any Age," 2 p.m., Orpheum Theatre, 200 W. Washington St., Phoenix. Dr. Daniel Amen explores how the brain works, how damage can reveal itself in negative behaviors, how to improve brain health, and more. Sponsored by Eight/KAET-TV. Admission: (480) 965-2877 or www.azpbs.org/eightboxoffice.

Wednesday, Jan. 28

"Good Time, Bad Time, no Time: Choosing to Have Children," 12:30 p.m., Life Sciences Center (LS) 250. A brown-bag panel discussion featuring a graduate student, a post-doctoral researcher, an industry researcher, a lecturer and a faculty member, all of whom have had children recently. Sponsored by Association for Women in Sciences. Information: faye.farmer@asu.edu.

Thursday, Jan. 29

Biotech Vendor Product Show, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Life Sciences Center C and E Courtyard. Information: Pamela.oliva@bvsweb.com.

"Family Issues in Elder Caregiving," noon-1 p.m., Memorial Union (MU) Rincon Room (248). Sponsored by ASU Family Resources. R.S.V.P.: Maureen.Duane@asu.edu.

Friday, Jan. 30

Ollie's Storybook Adventures, 10-11 a.m., Deer Valley Rock Art Center, 3711 W. Deer Valley Road, Phoenix. A story session for children ages 3 to 6 and their parents, titled "Caring for Our World." Admission: \$2.50 per child; older siblings, \$2; Center members and accompanying adults, free; additional adults, \$2. Reservations: (623) 582-8007.

Events and Performances

*Indicates tickets are available at Herberger College of Fine Arts Box Office, Nelson Fine Arts Center, (480) 965-6447.

**Indicates tickets are available at ASU Gammage, Mill Avenue and Apache Boulevard, (480) 965-3434; ASU Kerr Cultural Center, 6110 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, (480) 596-2660.

Friday, Jan. 23

"The Lion King," 7:30 p.m., ASU Gammage. Marvel at the breathtaking spectacle of animals brought to life by award-winning director Julie Taymor, and thrill to the pulsating rhythms of the African Pridelands. Performance times: 7:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday; 2 and 7:30 p.m., Saturday; and 2 and 7 p.m., Sunday, through Feb. 8.**

"West Side Story," 7:30 p.m., Evelyn Smith Music Theatre. Set in Manhattan's west side Hell's Kitchen in the mid-1950s, the musical explores the rivalry between two teenage gangs of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Other performances: 7:30 p.m., Jan. 24; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Jan. 25. Presented by the Herberger School of Music's Musical Workshop.*

Sunday, Jan. 25

"The Gentleman Doc Holliday," 3 p.m., ASU Kerr Cultural Center, Scottsdale. Wyatt Earp (yes, he is a descendant of Tombstone's famous Earp) portrays Doc Holliday in this family show.**

Tuesday, Jan. 27

Tuesday Morning Music & Tea, 10:30 a.m., ASU Kerr Cultural Center, Scottsdale. ASU's Ocotillo Winds perform. Free, but R.S.V.P. required: (480) 596-2660. Bring a can of food or sealed personal item for Vista del Camino food bank.

Green Jazz Series, 6:30 p.m., Herberger Theater Center, 222 E. Monroe St., Phoenix. Khani Cole entertains. Sponsored by ASU Online, the Herberger Theater Center, Brotha Love Productions and *Southwest Green Magazine*. Information: www.herbergertheater.org/asu_green_jazz_lecture_january.

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Exhibits @ Noon, noon-1 p.m., Center for Meteorite Studies. Sponsored by the Museums, Galleries and Collections Committee. Information: www.asu.edu/museums.

Tokyo String Quartet, 7:30 p.m., Katzin Concert Hall. Free, but tickets required: (480) 965-6447.

Friday, Jan. 30

Coffee at Kerr, 10:30 a.m., ASU Kerr Cultural Center, Scottsdale. Native American classical guitarist Gabriel Ayala previews his 8 p.m. concert. Free, but R.S.V.P. required: (480) 596-2660. Bring a can of food or sealed personal item for Vista del Camino food bank.

Gabriel Ayala, Native American classical guitarist, 8 p.m., ASU Kerr Cultural Center, Scottsdale.**

Exhibitions

ASU Gammage—1-4 p.m., Monday. Information: (480) 965-6912.

Through Feb. 15, Mixed media by Mesa Art League.

The Galleria—8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday, located in Mercado Building C, 502 E. Monroe St., Phoenix. Information: (602) 496-1500.

Through February, "Different Strokes." Glendale Community College art professor Sharon Forsmo presents a wide range of paintings and drawings on a variety of media, such as paper, linen and hardboard. The artwork is inspired by Forsmo's ongoing exploration of different media and their relationship to a variety of surface grounds. The paintings represented include both oil- and water-based media, and they display the color characteristics and expressive qualities that are unique to them.

Defenses

Zachary Justus, PhD, Comm., 2 p.m., Jan. 29, STAU A431.

'Triple Espresso' serves up barrel of laughs with comedic tour de force

By Judith Smith

"Triple Espresso" is, according to its press materials, a show where you laugh all the way through, almost non-stop.

"Triple Espresso" is both the name of the show and the company that produces it, says Bill Partlan, associate professor of theater at ASU, who is its director.

The play has been running in Minneapolis, where it originated, for 12 years with no signs of slowing down. It just finished an 11-year run in San Diego, and it has been presented in Chicago, Detroit, Dublin, London, Los Angeles, Milwaukee and Seattle, and has been a hit in Flemish and German adaptations as well. It will play in Phoenix through Feb. 8.

So what is "Triple Espresso" and why is it so funny?

It's part vaudeville, part magic show, part slapstick and part pathos. And, if you can imagine yourself singing "Home on the Range" during the play, watching corny magic tricks, and hoping you won't be singled out for embarrassment by the actors, then you can see why it is such a good time.

It's the story of three guys who try to make it in show biz, and who suffer the single most embarrassing moment ever broadcast on live television – to the whole nation, on top of it

all. (They give you a hint of what that moment was.)

It endures because it's a universal story of friends who manage to survive a disaster – and the lesson that friendship can survive a disaster, even if it's man-made.

"You end up pulling for these three guys, even as they fail to gain show business success," Partlan says.

Partlan became involved when he attended one of the first productions in Minneapolis, where he was artistic director of the Cricket Theater.

"The three writer-performers who created the piece – Bill Arnold, Michael Pearce Donley and Bob Stromberg – got together over breakfast one day and decided to write something they could do together," Partlan says. "They gave themselves a month. At the first performance, in a church in Minneapolis, 600 people showed up. They had such an enthusiastic response that one of my board members suggested that I go. I did, and I laughed the entire evening."

Partlan offered the three a slot in the Cricket Theater's upcoming season, and "Triple Espresso" ran for eight weeks, breaking every box office record.

Partlan says he joined Arnold, Donley and Stromberg,

and Dennis Babcock, executive producer, to form the Triple Espresso Company "to ensure that it would have a future life."

The playwrights also are the actors – and, with Partlan and Babcock as the producers and directors, "we don't need permission from the writers to make changes," says Partlan. "What keeps it alive is that it is a living, breathing organism, not a museum piece. We've been able to grow within it."

Part of the reason the play keeps going is because of repeat visitors, Partlan says, adding: "People enjoy it, and they bring someone else. Anyone seems to be able to enjoy it. It entertains both teenagers and adults."

Performances at the Herberger Theater Center, 222 E. Monroe St., Phoenix, are at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays; 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; and 2 p.m. Sundays, through Feb. 8. Ticket prices range from \$23 to \$45, with rush sales available on day of show. To buy tickets, call (602) 252-8497, or visit the Web site www.tripleespresso.com.

Just remember two things if you go: Watch out for Bobby Bean's guitar – and don't sit in the front row.

Smith, with Media Relations, can be reached at (480) 965-4821 or jps@asu.edu.

Art exhibit offers fresh view on immigration

By Corey Schubert

Imagine seeing Captain America being attacked by a giant Quetzal snake whose skin is striped in the colors of the Mexican flag.

It's a startling image on canvas, and it quickly draws a crowd on the second floor of University Center at ASU's Downtown Phoenix campus.

Several people try to figure out if the look in Captain America's eyes is one of fear or anger. Others discuss what they feel the symbolism implies about issues of migration, immigration and their effect on community.

Artist Luis Gutierrez knows his answer, but he'd prefer viewers to share their thoughts instead. Like many of the Phoenix artists whose works are on display in a new exhibit, titled "Migration: Immigration, Giving Honor to Cultures and Communities," he's using art to encourage open-minded dialogue about an important and divisive current issue.

That's one of the main goals of the free exhibit, which runs through May 16 on the second floor of University Center, 411 N. Central Ave. More than 60 new works are on display, with about 100 more arriving from ASU's West Campus and South Mountain High School in Phoenix in time for an Urban Gallery Exhibition on April 3. This event will feature live music, dancers and interactive art during First Friday.

"This showing of art is a material example of social embeddedness," says Judy Butzine, co-founder of the Cultural Arts Coalition, which partners with ASU. "The arts are making the material link between the people of the community, the university and the students it's teaching. What we hope is that through the artists' interpretation of this subject, people are able to get another point of view that falls into the gray area – that isn't black or white."

The exhibit includes portraits from Emily Matyas, who traveled to Ciudad



PHOTO BY FELIPE RUIZ-ACOSTA

Phoenix artist Luis Gutierrez, right, prepares to display his painting, "Captain America is Off-Balance," with his brother, Sam. The work is part of a new art exhibit, "Migration: Immigration, Giving Honor to Cultures and Communities," on the second floor of University Center at ASU's Downtown Phoenix campus. Gutierrez's work recently was featured in *Smithsonian Magazine*.

Obregon, N.M., to depict families deeply affected by immigration policy.

Viewers also can see the results of a media project by youths at Neighborhood Ministries, a holistic outreach serving distressed families in urban Phoenix. They took photos and interviewed residents to share different perspectives on life in their community.

"This is trying to be an authentic voice from the community, speaking to the reality of the context that this campus finds itself in," says Ian Danley, Neighborhood Ministries high school program coordinator.

The exhibit was inspired by the ASU Morrison Institute for Public Policy's recent report, "Immigration: From Global to Local Kids," which examines immigration as a global, national, local and family phenomenon.

"The goal is to create dialogue," says

Phoenix artist and community activist Martin Moreno. "Unless you talk, you can't understand the cultural differences and likenesses. We are the family of humanity, after all."

The new installation is part of the ongoing "For Our Eyes" exhibition, which features artwork throughout the building from ASU's community partners. Viewing hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The exhibit also will be featured among the highlights of a daylong community event, "Action, Advocacy and Arts," focusing on the power of activism April 3 at the downtown campus.

For information about the exhibit, contact ASU community liaison Malissa Geer via e-mail at malissa.geer@asu.edu.

Schubert, with the College of Public Programs, can be reached at (602) 496-0406 or corey.schubert@asu.edu.

Art center provides private party venue

Imagine reciting wedding vows at sunset in the midst of looming hills and ancient petroglyphs, with desert wildlife joining the crowd of well-wishers.

This scenario can be a reality, thanks to ASU's Deer Valley Rock Art Center, which has begun offering the use of the center and its facilities for weddings and other private events.

Available facilities include the museum, education room, outdoor amphitheater and trail. Possible private events include weddings, birthday parties, retirement receptions, corporate team-building workshops, professional meetings, seminars, conferences, and other small meetings or events.

The center features more than 1,500 Hohokam, Patayan and Archaic petroglyphs; a 47-acre nature preserve where wildlife live in their natural habitat; and a museum designed by Will Bruder.

The rental fee is \$100 per hour, which includes the venue, use of tables and chairs, and keeping the museum open if the event is in the evening. In addition, arrangements can be made to have one of the center's public educators give a special tour of the site.

The educators offer a wealth of knowledge regarding desert wildlife, native plants, archaeology and native cultures. The additional cost per person for a one-hour guided tour is: adults, \$6.50; seniors, \$3.50; and children, \$2.50.

For children's birthday parties, the guided tour rate includes a make-your-own-petroglyph activity and corn grinding. "Memory Packs" (goodie bags) are available for an added \$1 per child.

For more information, contact Kim Arth at (623) 582-8007 or kimberly.arth@asu.edu.

Green Jazz Series concert aims to raise sustainable living awareness

By Marshall Terrill

The Valley's gold standard for jazz is going "green" for one night to raise awareness on sustainable living.

International recording artist and Scottsdale resident Khani Cole will headline ASU's Green Jazz Series concert, which takes place at 6:45 p.m., Jan. 27, at the Herberger Theater, located at 222 E. Monroe St. in Phoenix.

Admission is \$20 for general admission and \$40 for VIP seating.

The series, which runs through April, is sponsored by ASU Online, the Herberger Theater Center, Brotha Love Productions and *Southwest Green Magazine*.

"We're hopeful the concert series will help shift the awareness and culture of green living while helping low-income households," says Mernoy Harrison Jr., ASU Online and Extended Campus

vice president and executive vice provost. "The premise is that jazz is the bridge between music and sustainability."

Proceeds from the concert series will support the Green Survival Initiative (GSI), a Phoenix-based sustainability project. Through the use of cost-effective green technologies such as compact fluorescent lights, low-flow shower heads and water heater blankets, GSI seeks to mitigate increasing energy costs for about 1,000 low- and fixed-income households in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

The initiative will help low-income families make the conversion to a sustainable lifestyle.

"The GSI recognizes that there is a cost to convert to a green lifestyle, and those who need it the most might not be able to make that conversion," says George Brooks, publisher of *Southwest Green Magazine*. "We believe that, once these conversions are made, each household could save anywhere from \$300 to \$500 annually."

A green business networking event that includes informational

booths and promotional giveaways starts at 5:30 p.m. and will precede the 6:45 p.m. concert. For more information, or to reserve a booth, call (602) 363-1677 or send an e-mail to publisher@sw-green.com.

Cole, who is one of the Valley's best known names in smooth jazz, ascended into the national and international consciousness after relocating in 1992 to Arizona from her native Milwaukee. The move sparked the inception of her very first release, "Piece of My Soul," (1996) on Fahrenheit Records.

The sultry-voiced singer was praised by critics for the smoky tonality of her voice and emotional quality of her songs.

For more information on Cole, visit the Web site www.myspace.com/khanicole.

Terrill, with the Downtown Phoenix campus, can be reached at (602) 496-1005 or marshall.terrill@asu.edu.

University announces 2nd major academic reorganization in last 6 months

(Continued from page 1)

pices of the College of Teacher Education and Leadership reflects our commitment to strengthen opportunities for students wishing to become teachers across all campuses of ASU. The concomitant establishment of the Mary Lou Fulton Institute and Graduate School of Education provides for great synergy to advance that which we learn from our research initiatives into practical matters to enable the next generation of teachers.

While not a direct result of the need to reduce expenses, these academic changes will provide savings of about \$2.7 million in fiscal year 2010 through reducing four administrative positions, 18 academic and service professional positions, and 35 classified staff positions. The results will be achieved through reduced administrative overhead, the merger of programs of similar content, the fostering of natural collaborations and the consolidation of support services.

In August, ASU announced its first major academic reorganization, which included merging the School of Global Management and Leadership with the W. P. Carey School of Business; disestablishing the College of Human Services and moving its programs into the College of Public Programs and the New College of Interdisci-

plinary Arts and Sciences; consolidating nine academic units into three schools in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and similarly merging six departments into three in the College of Technology and Innovation.

Details of the academic reorganization announced Jan. 21 are as follows:

College of Teacher Education and Leadership

- Consolidate all teacher preparation and undergraduate education programs across the university into one college. This college will administer all teacher preparation programs offered at the university.
- Disestablish the School of Educational Innovation and Teacher Preparation. This school's programs will become part of the College of Teacher Education and Leadership.

Mary Lou Fulton College of Education

The Mary Lou Fulton Institute and Graduate School of Education will be established to administer graduate-level education programs except those related to teacher preparation. This requires:

- Disestablishing the Mary Lou Fulton College of Education.
- Disestablishing the Division of Curriculum and Instruction.
- Disestablishing the Division of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.
- Disestablishing the Division of Psychology in Education.
- Establishing the Division of Educational Leadership and Psychology.
- Establishing the Division of Learning and Instruction.

Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts

The establishment of the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts requires:

- Disestablishing the College of Design.
- Disestablishing the Katherine K. Herberger College of the Arts.
- Moving the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture to the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts.
- Moving the School of Design Innovation to the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts.
- Moving the School of Music, the School of Art, and the School of Theatre and Film to the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts.

- Disestablishing the Department of Dance.
- Establishing a School of Dance.
- Establishing a School of Arts, Media and Engineering.
- Moving the ASU Art Museum to the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts.
- Moving the Phoenix Urban Research Lab (PURL) to the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture.
- Moving the ASU Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family to the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture.
- Moving the Herberger Center for Design Research to the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The plan calls for the establishment of a School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning.

This school is a merger of the School of Geographical Sciences and the School of Planning. It was initiated by both faculties as a means to enhance the intellectual connections of the two disciplines. It involves:

- Disestablishment of the School of Geographical Sciences.
- Disestablishment of the School of Planning.

In BRIEF

Spivak emphasizes humanities research

Humanist and author Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak will track the role of humanities inside and beyond the university during a lecture at 5:30 p.m., Jan. 29, in Old Main's Carson Ballroom on ASU's Tempe campus.

Spivak will examine why it is important to support and protect humanities research in an era of globalization. Her lecture – "Living with the Humanities" – will address the question of how globalization has affected humanities research historically and through the contributions of today's public scholars. She also will address contemporary curtailments of academic freedom and their implications for the future of the humanities.

The Institute for Humanities Research in ASU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences brings Spivak to campus as its 2009 distinguished lecturer. She is a university professor and the director of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society at Columbia University. Her research interests include feminism, Marxism, deconstruction and globalization.

The lecture is free and open to the public, but reservations are required. A reception before the lecture will begin at 4:30 p.m., and a book signing will follow the lecture, where Spivak's books will be available for purchase. For seating, call (480) 965-3000 or send an e-mail to ihr@asu.edu. More information can be found online at <http://ihr.asu.edu>.

Scholar's discussion to focus on historic texts

Scholar Dan Schowalter will discuss the three temples built by Herod the Great, which Jewish historian Josephus writes about in his texts, at a lecture at 7 p.m., Jan. 29, in Life Sciences A Building, room 1919, on ASU's Tempe campus.

Schowalter will examine the difficulty of integrating material remains at these archeological sites with textual evidence from Josephus' texts and the New Testament.

The lecture is sponsored in partnership by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Department of Religious Studies, School of Human Evolution and Social Change, School of International Letters and Cultures, and the Central Arizona Society of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Schowalter, who will discuss the political significance of holy places in the ancient and modern worlds, is a professor of religion and classics at Carthage College in Wisconsin. His academic interests include archeology, the development of the New Testament, honors offered to the Roman emperors, and the modern dialogue between science and religion.

Speakers highlight environmental journalism

The board of the Society of Environmental Journalists will conduct a roundtable discussion from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Jan. 30, with a leader in new media and citizen journalism, along with editors of three new online ventures featuring environmental coverage. The discussion will take place in room 252 of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications on ASU's Downtown Phoenix campus.

Panelists at the discussion include Dan Gillmor, director of the Knight Center for New Media Entrepreneurship in the Cronkite School; Marla Cone, editor-in-chief of *Environmental Health News* in Los Angeles; Douglas Fischer, editor of *dailyclimate.org* in Boulder, Colo.; and Adam Klawonn, founder and editor of Phoenix's *Zonie Report*.

Jonathan Fink, director of ASU's Global Institute of Sustainability, also will be at the event, where he will discuss the latest

on pioneering research being done at ASU's first-in-the-nation School of Sustainability.

Stowe memorial tribute to take place Jan. 31

A memorial tribute and celebration of the life of Noel Stowe will take place from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Jan. 31, in the Carson Ballroom of Old Main on ASU's Tempe campus.

Stowe, an ASU professor who founded the university's public history program and is recognized for his work in helping Arizona preserve its heritage, died Dec. 13.

More information about Stowe's life and achievements can be found online at http://asunews.asu.edu/20081216_noelstowe.

Additional information about the memorial tribute is available from ASU's History Department by calling (480) 965-5779.

Body Pride Week features multiple events

Darryl Roberts' "America the Beautiful," a documentary that explores America's preoccupation with beauty, will be shown at Neeb Hall on the ASU Tempe campus at 7 p.m., Feb. 9. The screening will be followed by a question-and-answer session moderated by the director. Admission is free.

"America the Beautiful" explores the quest for physical perfection. Roberts, a filmmaker and director, embarked on a two-year journey to examine beauty in America.

The screening of "America the Beautiful" is one of several events planned during Body Pride Week, from Feb. 9-13. Other Body Pride events on campus include a Resource Fair on Hayden Lawn, "Recovering from an Eating Disorder" panel discussion, a healthy eating demonstration at Engrained and a clothing drive.

Body Pride activities at ASU aim to educate the campus community and raise awareness about eating disorders and body image issues while promoting campus resources, normal eating, active living, self-acceptance, self-respect and appreciation of size diversity. For more information, contact Manju Ramadurai at (480) 965-2253 or manju.ramadurai@asu.edu.

Purchasing Boot Camp set for Feb. 17

Those in need of some guidance, discipline and tough love should hustle over to Purchasing Boot Camp, a half-day training session where attendees learn the who, what, where, when and why of purchasing at ASU.

The training session, which covers topics such as basic procurement, contracts, small business requirements and sustainability, will take place from 7:15 a.m. to noon, Feb. 17, in the Memorial Union's Arizona Room.

A continental breakfast is included.

Seating is limited, so those interested in attending should visit the Web site www.asu.edu/hr/training and search for "Purchasing Boot Camp" to sign up.

Science-engineering fair volunteers needed

The 2009 Arizona Science and Engineering Fair (AzSEF) will take place March 20-24 at the Phoenix Convention Center. This science fair is open to students in grades 5-12 from schools throughout Arizona. This year, as many as 1,100 students are anticipated to participate.

To make this event a success, volunteers are needed to lend their time and talents in a variety of areas. Some of the activities include setting up equipment and materials, registration for students and judges, student guides, student project monitors and

greeters for the awards ceremony, just to name a few. There also is a need for judges March 23.

All volunteers receive a special shirt to wear during their volunteer service, as well as meals when working through meal shifts. Volunteers also receive parking passes to be used during their work shift.

Those interested in volunteering should register directly on the AzSEF Web site <http://azsef.asu.edu>. After submitting an online registration, an electronic confirmation will be sent.

For more information, contact Lois Hedlund at (480) 727-1049 or hedlund@asu.edu.

Password changes protect against 'phishing'

Frequently changing an ASURITE password can help ASU students, faculty and staff members protect their privacy, and avoid "phishing" scams and other online attacks, including identity theft. But many ASURITE holders are unaware how to change or reset passwords, making password resets the No. 1 question answered by the ASU Help Desk.

Forgotten or lost passwords can be reset at www.asu.edu/lostpassword, provided a user's security questions already have been set. The security questions are used to verify a user's identity during password resets and can be activated, changed or disabled at the user's discretion. When a user attempts to reset a password online, the user is prompted for the answer to their secret questions, which helps protect against impersonation.

To review, set or change security questions, visit the Web site <http://asu.edu/selfsub> and click on "Identity Verification." To change a password, click on "Change Password," or sign into My ASU and click on "Computer Accounts" under the "My Profile" tab. ASU recommends passwords be changed at least twice a year.

Users who have not set up security questions and have forgotten their passwords can have them reset by calling the ASU Help Desk at (480) 965-6500. For more information, visit the Web site http://help.asu.edu/Password_Help.

University earns award from association

The Mountain Pacific Association of Colleges and Employers (MPACE) awarded ASU the Most Valuable Organization for 2008 at its annual conference in San Diego Dec. 10.

MPACE is the professional association of university career services professionals and corporate college relations representatives in the Rocky Mountain and West Coast area of the United States. The award is for the university's lengthy support and extensive involvement in all types of MPACE activities, events and programs.

Two ASU career professionals serve as board members of MPACE: Jessie Heidemann of the W. P. Carey School of Business Career Center, and Justin Finnerty, director of the Career Preparation Center at the ASU Polytechnic campus.

Elaine Stover, associate director of ASU Career Services, and Kara Weller, assistant director in the W. P. Carey School of Business Graduate Career Management Center, also are active in the leadership of the association.

Correction

In the Jan. 16 edition of *ASU Insight*, the law degree for professor Jonathan Rose of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law was described incorrectly. He earned his law degree from the University of Minnesota.

Research links microbes to body weight differences

(Continued from page 1)

gut and morbid obesity began when John DiBaise, a gastroenterologist at the Mayo Clinic, Arizona, became interested in both the underlying mechanisms of obesity and plausible alternatives to gastric bypass surgery – still the only reliable long-term treatment for the extremely overweight.

DiBaise turned to Bruce Rittmann, an environmental engineer and a member of National Academy of Engineering, whose Center for Environmental Biotechnology uses its expertise to examine microbial populations important for cleaning up pollutants and generating renewable bioenergy. Rittmann invited Rosa Krajmalnik-Brown, an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, to collaborate and apply her microbial ecology expertise to this project.

The three researchers were able to obtain seed funding from the Mayo Clinic and ASU so that they could combine their respective talents. DiBaise recruited nine middle-aged volunteers in three groups – normal weight, morbidly obese and following gastric bypass surgery – to participate in the study.

The research team's central hypothesis is that differing microbial populations in the gut allow the body to harvest more energy, making people more susceptible to developing obesity. These small differences can, over time, profoundly affect an individual's weight. Supporting this view is the study's confirmation that the microbial composition among obese patients appears significantly altered compared with both normal weight individuals and those who have undergone gastric bypass surgery.

A microbial menagerie

To tease out the microbial human gut composition, Husen Zhang, a postdoctoral scholar working with Rittmann and Krajmalnik-Brown, used an advanced DNA sequencing technology and sophisticated ecological tools. The team examined 184,094 gene sequences of microbial 16S rRNA, a molecular structure which provides a characteristic fingerprint for microbial identification. The analysis was conducted with the assistance of University of Arizona's Rod Wing at the Bio5 Institute, using a novel sequencing technique known as 454-pyrosequencing, which allows a significantly larger number and greater diversity of gut microbes to be identified.

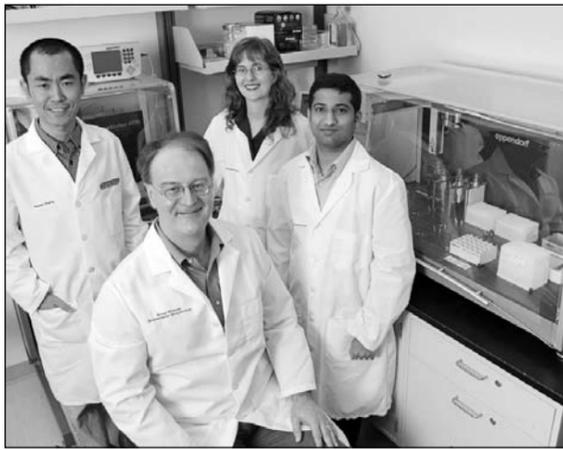
The group's latest findings represent the first investigation of gut microbiota from post-gastric-bypass patients to date.

By examining a specific region of the 16S rRNA gene known as V6 – PCR amplified from the stool samples of the nine test subjects – the researchers were able to classify a zoo of microorganisms, which fell into a half-dozen broad categories, with two bacterial phyla, the bacteroidetes and firmicutes, predominating.

The resulting composition of gut microbiota in the three gastric bypass patients differed substantially and in potentially important ways from obese and normal weight individuals. This means the drastic anatomical changes created by gastric bypass surgery appear to have profound effects on the microorganisms that inhabit the intestine. This change may be part of the reason that gastric-bypass surgery is the most effective means to treat obesity today.

The team's study is the first molecular survey of gut microbial diversity following surgical weight loss, and has helped solidify the link between methane producing microbes and obesity. Specifically, the microbial populations extracted from obese individuals were high in a particular microbial subgroup, hydrogen-producing bacteria known as prevotellaceae.

Such hydrogen producers appear to coexist with hydrogen-



The Biodesign Institute's Center for Environmental Biotechnology, led by Bruce Rittmann second from left, uses its expertise to examine microbial populations important for cleaning up pollutants and generating renewable bioenergy. Along with Rittmann are postdoctoral researcher Husen Zhang, left; Rosa Krajmalnik-Brown, second from right, an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering who applied her microbial ecology expertise to this project; and graduate student Prathap Parameswaran.

consuming methanogens, found in abundance in obese patients, but absent in normal-weight and gastric-bypass samples. Unlike the hydrogen producers, however, these methane-liberating hydrogen consumers are not bacteria. They belong instead to the third great microbial domain – the archaea (with eukarya and bacteria making up the other two).

Energy managers

During the course of digestion, calories are extracted from food and stored in fat tissue for later use – a process delicately regulated by the multitude of microbial custodians. The intermediary products of the digestive process include hydrogen, carbon dioxide and several short-chain fatty acids (SCFAs).

Results suggest a cooperative coexistence in obese individuals between hydrogen producers and hydrogen-consuming methanogens.

"Organisms producing hydrogen and acetate create a situation like cars flooding onto the highway," Rittman says. "The methanogens, which remove the hydrogen, are like the offramps, allowing the hydrogen cars to get off. That allows more acetate cars to get on, because some hydrogen cars are coming off the highway."

The methanogen offramps, by removing hydrogen, accelerate the efficient fermentation of otherwise indigestible plant polysaccharides and carbohydrates. The effect is to boost production of SCFAs, particularly acetate, which will be taken up by the intestinal epithelium and converted to fat. The result over time may be increasing weight, eventually leading to obesity.

While weight regulation involves a complex interplay of genetic predisposition, exercise, eating habits, and other factors, manipulation of the gut's microflora, particularly the methanogenic archaea, may provide additional avenues for the treatment of morbid obesity.

Richard Harth, with the Biodesign Institute, can be reached at richard.harth@asu.edu.

Student's documentary reveals new portrait of refugees' tribulations

(Continued from page 1)

mentioned to her the option of doing a documentary because she could combine her journalism skills and passion for community service to produce a film," Johnson says. "The project will help Carly achieve her academic goals while documenting the journey of a refugee family."

Johnson says all thesis and creative projects are sponsored by a committee of ASU faculty and local community members.

Bhutan is a landlocked nation in South Asia, located at the eastern end of the Himalaya Mountains. It is bordered to the south, east and west by India, and to the north by Tibet.

Joanne Morales, director of refugee programs for Catholic Charities Community Services, says the Nepali government established new eligibility requirements for Bhutanese citizenship in the 1980s that disenfranchised many ethnic Nepalis, stripping them of their civil rights.

Since then, all ethnic Nepalis from southern Bhutan have been living in seven different camps in eastern Nepal since they were expelled from their homes more than 16 years ago. Of the more than 100,000 refugees in Nepali camps, the United States will consider resettlement for at least 60,000 of them.

"These refugees have literally been physically forced out of Bhutan and have nowhere to go," says Morales, who connected Campo with a Bhutanese family through their program. "I am hopeful this documentary will help the community understand why we bring refugees to the United States, and how the community can help support them."

Campo's interest in refugee issues stems from her experience volunteering for Community Outreach and Advocates for Refugees two years ago. Campo says that firsthand experience made a lasting impression on her.

"Refugees are normal people who unfortunately had to leave their country for whatever reasons, whether that was for political or religious persecution," Campo says. "They come to the United States to make a better life for themselves, and they shouldn't be condemned for that."

The half-hour documentary will be screened March 27 at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication's Cronkite Theater, located in Phoenix at 555 N. Central Ave. Admission is free.

Terrill, with the Downtown Phoenix campus, can be reached at (602) 496-1005 or marshall.terrill@asu.edu.

ASU, Maricopa Community College District unveil expanded partnership

(Continued from page 1)

As the two largest providers of higher education in the state, ASU and Maricopa are uniquely positioned to create a student-centered "culture of transfer" to increase the number of college degrees awarded in Arizona.

ASU and the MCCD have a strong history of developing collaborations and partnerships to support transfer student success. As the need for educated workers in the state increases, they are ramping up their efforts, with the following goals:

- Double the number of Maricopa students transferring to ASU over the next five years, from 4,300 in 2006-2007.
- Double the percentage of Maricopa students transferring to ASU with an associate's degree, from 30 percent in 2006-2007.

- Increase the rate of Maricopa transfer students earning a bachelor's degree.

- Ensure seamless transition of students between Maricopa and ASU.

- Expand opportunities for direct transfer to specified ASU degree programs.

A key component of the enhanced alliance is incentives for students who complete an associate's degree or Arizona general education curriculum through an articulated degree-to-degree transfer program.

The Maricopa to ASU Pathways Program (MAPP) will provide guaranteed admission into an ASU undergraduate program.

First-time freshmen who complete a MAPP and transfer to ASU within three years of entering the program will benefit from tuition incentives, such as a cap on

tuition increases during their enrollment at ASU.

Guidelines include encouraging Maricopa students to earn an associate's degree before transferring, making students aware of financial aid opportunities and requirements, increasing ASU on-site student advising on MCCD campuses, increasing collection and sharing of data, and the development of an electronic transcript system.

"Linkages between the community college and the university are essential to the future of our educational enterprise in Arizona," says ASU President Michael Crow. "The Maricopa Community College District and ASU, through these efforts, have greatly enhanced our relationship and thus greatly improved our chances of success."

"Our colleges and ASU have a strong history of collaboration that will only be enhanced by strengthening the alliance," says Rufus Gasper, chancellor of MCCD. "We want to make sure that as many Maricopa County students as possible have the best opportunity to succeed first at a Maricopa Community College, and then at the university."

The two institutions appointed a steering committee to implement the MAPP program by this fall 2009, and to assess the progress of the alliance. ASU and MCCD will work together to identify and secure resources for the expanded partnership.

Auffret, with Media Relations, can be reached at (480) 965-6991 or sauffret@asu.edu.

EMPLOYMENT

The following positions are available as of Jan. 23 and are subject to change. All positions will be advertised in *Insight* only once. The staff requisition or job order number for each position is indicated by the (#) sign. ASU is an equal opportunity-affirmative action employer.

ASU POSITIONS

A complete job announcement for classified, administrative and service professional positions at the Downtown Phoenix, Polytechnic, Tempe and West campuses is available on the Human Resources Web page at www.asu.edu/asujobs, or the Telecommunication Device for the Deaf at (480) 965-3002.

For complete position descriptions and application requirements for academic positions, contact the appropriate department listed below. Faculty, academic professional and gradu-

ate assistant positions are also listed on the Human Resources Web sites and details must be obtained from the hiring department. Application deadlines are listed.

Dates listed are application deadlines, and application material is due by 11:59 p.m. on that date. Positions are 100 percent, full-time employment (FTE) unless otherwise noted. Code below is: (O) – position is open to the public.

STAFF POSITIONS

TEMPE CAMPUS

Professional

Academic Success Specialist #22170 (O) – School of Life Sciences (Jan. 30).

Academic Success Specialist #22154 (O) – College of Liberal Arts and Sciences-English Department (Jan. 23).

Research Phlebotomist #22121 (O) – College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Jan. 30).

Instructional Specialist PRN #22083 (O) – Intercollegiate Athletics – Office of Student Athlete Development (Jan. 21; every week thereafter until search is closed).

Instructional Specialist Senior PRN #22084 (O) – Intercollegiate Athletics – Office of Student Athlete Development (Jan. 21; every week thereafter until search is closed).

Police Radio Dispatcher (Part time) #22120 (O) – V.P. University Administration (Jan. 26; every week thereafter until search is closed).

'I Have a Dream' speech re-enactment comes to West campus

Matt Crum

A tradition at ASU's West campus that dates back to 1991 will continue at 10 a.m., Jan. 29, as Charles St. Clair re-enacts Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. The public is invited to attend this free event.

St. Clair, a faculty member in ASU's New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, will deliver the "I Have a Dream" speech as part of the West campus's annual March on West event. More than 250 students from local elementary and middle schools will arrive on campus at 9:30 to re-enact the 1963 March on Washington, which provided the setting for King's speech.

"It's an honor to share this unforgettable speech with a group of young people," St. Clair says. "You never know who will be inspired to do great things by hearing Dr. King's powerful message of harmony among all people."

Arriving school children will be greeted by the drum corps from Deer Valley High School, whose members will lead the students in a march around campus to the Fletcher Library lawn. In addition to St. Clair's speech, attendees will hear remarks from Jean Williams, the first female African-American judge in Arizona. Williams served as an attorney for King in the 1960s and later received numerous awards for her legal work.

Also during the event, ASU's 2009 MLK Servant-Leadership Award recipients will be recognized. Historian and civil rights advocate Mas Inoshita was selected to receive the community servant award. When Inoshita's family was interned in Arizona during World War II, he enlisted in the Army and later was sent to assess the damage at Hiroshima.

Inoshita has spent more than 25 years serving as a guest

lecturer for civic groups and Arizona schools.

Student servant award recipient Elodie Billionniere makes the time to volunteer while working on two advanced degrees at ASU.

She founded an organization to assist homeless individuals with housing, education and jobs, and she volunteers as a Big Sister and as a child care worker at a shelter. Billionniere is president of the ASU Black Graduate Students Association.

After the visiting school children listen to the "I Have a Dream" speech, they will participate in educational breakout sessions, facilitated by Susan Southard of Tempe-based Essential Theatre Co., in the campus's La Sala ballrooms.

For more information, call (602) 543-5306.

Crum, with Public Affairs at the West campus, can be reached at (602) 553-5209 or matthew.crum@asu.edu.

ASU Darwinfest events celebrate famous naturalist

By Margaret Coulombe

Why does Charles Darwin matter? Some of the most fundamental questions about humanity and the human spirit have been in the forefront of modern experience thanks to the publication of English naturalist's four major books, including "On the Origin of Species."

ASU joins the global celebration of Darwin's 200th birthday Feb. 12 and commemorates the 150th anniversary of the publication of "On the Origin of Species," with Darwinfest – a celebration of how the expression of radical thinking, scientific and technological enterprise can – and has – changed the world.

ASU Darwinfest captures how Darwin's bold thinking has evolved into new understanding about our origins, biodiversity and life beyond planet Earth in multiple venues. These include the Darwin Distinguished Lecture Series and Darwin Days on the Tempe campus, and the Future of Evolution Lecture Series at the Arizona Science Center.

In a festival environment highlighted by provocative panels and speakers, ASU graduate students and faculty are bringing out the best – as well as the beagles – in ASU.

Birthday festival events Feb. 12 culminate in a tea party on ASU's Hayden Lawn in Tempe, Arizona Beagle Rescue adoptions, a Darwin look-alike contest and other family activities.

A key part of ASU Darwinfest is communicating with the community. February's first events include the films "Flock of Dodos" and "Sizzle" with scientist and

ASU Darwinfest lecture series brings experts to university

ASU Darwinfest brings to Arizona some of the top thinkers in evolutionary theory and biology from around the world. The event connects with the global celebration of Charles Darwin's birth, and how the expression of radical thinking, scientific and technological enterprise can change the world.

February speakers include luminaries in philosophy, paleontology, anthropology, the history of science and biology, and even a Hollywood filmmaker.

Other events incorporate a book-signing, panel discussions, movies and a series of talks by:

- Feb. 5 – Randy Olson: "Don't be such a scientist."
- Feb. 6 – Michael Ruse: "Is Darwinism past its 'sell by' date?"

filmmaker Randy Olson. Panel discussions Feb. 9-13 range from "On the Origin of Our Species: Darwin and Human Evolution" and "Darwin's Birthday Suit: The Origin of Skin and Skin Color" to "What's Changed for Women in the Sciences since Darwin," "Radical Thinkers: the Origins of Novel Approaches in Science and Medicine," and "Teaching and Learning Evolution in America: Darwin's Role in the Classroom."

In addition, ASU leads the conversation "Evolution and Faith revisited: Can the two be reconciled?" at the Arizona Science Center's Science Café and will play host to a half-day symposium, sponsored by the International Institute

• Feb. 9 – Bernard Wood: "On the origin of our species: Darwin and human evolution."

• Feb. 10 – Nina Jablonski: "Darwin's birthday suit: The evolution of skin and skin color."

• Feb. 18 – Daniel Dennett: "Darwin's strange inversion of reasoning."

• Feb. 27 – Eric Davidson: "Gene regulatory networks in development and evolution."

These innovative talks tackle questions about communication of science, Darwin, human evolution, genetics and evolutionary theory, whether color is skin deep, and other provocative topics.

For more information or event details, visit the Web site <http://darwin.asu.edu>.

for Species, on "Discovery: Looking for Life: Adventures and Misadventures in Species Exploration."

Add to these beagles, reptiles and bone displays, tours of ASU's Institute for Human Origins and the Living Collection, and folks will still have just barely touched the tip of the celebratory iceberg. A full calendar of events can be found online at <http://darwin.asu.edu/calendar.php>, and detailed information about specific events is at <http://darwin.asu.edu>.

Coulombe, with the School of Life Sciences, can be reached at (480) 727-8934 or margaret.coulombe@asu.edu.

Center launches online index to measure travel, tourism

By Corey Schubert

ASU's Megapolitan Tourism Research Center has launched the Sun Corridor Tourism Barometer, a new online index to measure the health of the travel and tourism industry.

The barometer will supply decision-makers with a monthly scorecard for the businesses, destinations and industries in the state's Sun Corridor that are affected financially by tourist visitation. The seasonally adjusted index, which will be updated each month, is available at <http://mtrc.asu.edu/portal/barometer>.

It is the first tourism barometer developed for a "megapolitan" region. A second barometer is being constructed for Northern California in cooperation with San Jose State University. The goal is to construct tourism barometers for each of the 20 megapolitan areas in the United States in cooperation with tourism research universities across the country.

"Travel and tourism is fundamental to the integrated economic development process, and measurement tools that capture the monthly trends in this industry will be important for management, policy and public information," says Tim Tyrrell, director of the Megapolitan Tourism Research Center. "Megapolitan areas include metropolitan areas, smaller cities and rural communities all tied together by the movement of goods, close business linkages, common cultures and physical environments. They are a growing force driving the integration of regional economies into the world economy."

The index serves as a type of scorecard for the travel and tourism industry. It does not provide a dollar value of industry output or any individual business sector, but gives an historical account of events, such as the effects of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, on the industry and the time it took to recover. Experts at the center are now watching the index to determine the impacts of recent fuel price increases and growing unemployment on the industry. These had mild effects on the seasonally adjusted index by September.

The index shows two distinct periods of growth. One stretched from early 1990 to mid-2001, when the index dropped from 116 in August 2001 to a seven-year low of 98.6 in October. Another growth period began in late 2001 and ended in March, when it reached a record high of 126.1. The index has since declined to 122.2 for September, the most recent data point.

The barometer is designed to specifically represent the Sun Corridor of Arizona: Maricopa, Pinal, Pima, Yavapai, Santa Cruz and Cochise counties. The Sun Corridor is one of 20 megapolitan regions in the country and includes about 80 percent of Arizona's population.

The new index is derived from four equally weighted, seasonally adjusted indicators that capture different aspects of tourism activity: hospitality and leisure industry employment, commercial air carrier landings, national park visitation and international visitors to the United States. Together, these indicators capture trends in four diverse tourism-related components: jobs, transportation activity, outdoor recreational activity and international visitation.

Schubert, with the College of Public Programs, can be reached at (602) 496-0406 or corey.schubert@asu.edu.

ASU to enhance mental health services through grant

By Julie Newberg

ASU was recently awarded a three-year, \$300,000 continuation of a grant to enhance mental-health services and suicide-prevention programs from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The grant makes it possible for ASU to continue and expand suicide prevention efforts with the involvement of many departments across all four ASU campuses to address student mental-health needs through a proactive, preventive and crisis-response approach that specifically targets first-year students and other at-risk student populations.

Data from the 2006 American College Health Association-National College Health Assessment show that 94 percent of ASU students sampled felt overwhelmed at least once during the school year. Seventy-three percent reported feeling very sad, and 57 percent said they felt like things were hopeless. Forty percent felt so depressed at least once that they found it difficult to function, and 9 percent reported seriously considering attempting suicide. One percent reported having made an attempt.

"It is easier for a young person's problems to go unnoticed when he or she is away at college and not under the eyes of parents, old friends and high school teachers," says Martha Dennis Christiansen, who is principal investigator for the project.

Christiansen serves as associate vice president of University Student Initiatives, and as director of Counseling and Consultation.

Students who leave home for college go through a time of transition when they establish their own identities, leave traditional support systems and experience a wide range of stressful situations.

"We know that first-year students tend to be at higher risk for a number of different problems," says Dan Schulte, a coordinator for the grant project and assistant director for training services at Counseling and Consultation. "Normal stresses are often experienced much more significantly."

Stress, sadness and depression can be factors that contribute to suicidal thoughts. Suicide is the second-leading cause of death among college students behind accidents. The grant funds awareness and skill-building training sessions that are offered to ASU "gatekeepers" such as community

assistants and residential life administrators, who are most likely to encounter students who are having problems. Staff members who work with campus minority populations, such as American Indian, disabled, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and international students, also are trained since these groups may be at risk as well.

"Stressors are not the same for everyone who is part of a minority group," Schulte says. "But, in general, students who are members of a minority group face a greater level of stress in their daily lives simply by being who they are. This grant helps address the needs of minorities and other special populations at ASU."

While efforts from the previous three-year grant focused on the Tempe campus, new money will be spent on preventive measures throughout ASU's four campuses.

Training efforts already have paid off, with community assistants in residence halls feeling more confident in approaching students who are struggling or engaging in risky behavior.

"They're not always sure what to do," Schulte says. "They don't want to pry."

After learning in training that it's OK to reach out to those in need, community assistants often find that the intervention is welcomed by students who may be overwhelmed by circumstances in life, or mental illnesses such as clinical depression.

Students also can use an online personal wellness profile to assess their physical and mental health at www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/wellness/personal-wellness-profile.html.

Additionally, a four-session workshop called "Think Different, Feel Better" helps students to better understand and manage their moods.

"It's been very successful for the students who have taken part in it," Schulte says.

Other collective factors involve making everyone in the ASU community aware of the risk of suicide, and helping those students who need support.

For more information on wellness programs at ASU, visit the Web site www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/wellness/about/index.html.

Newberg, with Media Relations, can be reached at (480) 727-3116 or julie.newberg@asu.edu.